

Jackson School Road Improvement Project

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Construction

Updated April 20, 2020

In an effort to keep community members informed about the progress of the Jackson School Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Project, the City of Hillsboro provides updates on the dedicated project webpage at Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/JacksonSchool and to an email subscriber list on a quarterly basis.

What is the project's timeline?

The project is on schedule to start construction in winter 2019 and be complete by winter 2022. Final design is complete and the City is currently negotiating with property owners to acquire the final portions of land needed to construct the project.

Underground Utilities

As part of the project, are all utilities going to be underground?

Yes. In April 2018, the Hillsboro City Council voted to change the project's design, and underground all utilities in the public right-of-way on both sides of Jackson School Road.

Trees & Vegetation

How has tree and vegetation removal, as part of the project, been minimized?

Trees are an important part of our ecosystem and help make our community beautiful. Nobody wants to remove a tree, but sometimes it is necessary. We must also balance our natural environment with the safety of our community. The project team worked diligently to minimize tree loss while ensuring the safety of all who use the road, including children who walk and bike to nearby schools.

The design for Jackson School Road is as narrow as it can be, while providing bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Trees and vegetation will be removed only where it's essential.

For every tree that must be removed, the City will replant a tree in the Jackson School Road corridor or in the City. This is not required to maintain the City's status as a Tree City USA community, but it reflects the desire to balance the necessary tree removal with new trees for the future.

When will tree and vegetation removal occur?

Tree removal will not occur during the nesting and migratory season.

A licensed tree service has removed the previously identified trees and vegetation along the project corridor beginning October 2019. A certified arborist will oversee the work.

The process will take approximately two to three months, weather permitting. Minimal disruption to traffic is expected. Affected property owners and current residents were notified prior to the start of the work in mid-September with a mailing.

Affected property owners and residents will need to remove any personal belongings within the public right-of-way before work begins in October. During construction, more than 60 established, healthy trees will be preserved and protected in the corridor; 364 new trees will be planted in the Jackson School Road corridor and throughout the City later in the project. Prior to this work, PGE will be trimming near powerlines.

Will more trees be removed?

Trees and vegetation that were previously identified to be removed – but were not taken down by the tree removal contractor – will be removed as part of the construction contract. Some of these are in sensitive areas that require a more careful removal.

How will removed trees be used in the community?

A portion of the removed trees will be used as wood chips in Hillsboro parks and trails, firewood donated to nonprofits, art pieces, and root balls relocated to Jackson Bottom Wetlands. In addition, property owners may choose to keep wood from trees cut down on or adjacent to their property.

Hillsboro is a Tree City USA community. How can the City allow 300 trees to be removed for a public infrastructure project?

The requirements the City must adhere to for its Tree City USA designation do not prohibit it from removing trees when necessary for construction of a capital improvement project. Though not required, the City is planting a replacement tree for every tree that is removed as part of this project.

In addition, as part of its participation in the Tree City USA program, the City planted more than 29,000 trees at the Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve in 2018; and will plant more than 10,500 trees in 2019 the majority of which will be planted at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve.

Harold Eastman Memorial Rose Garden

Will the Rose Garden be affected by the project?

The Rose Garden will be reconfigured as part of this project. The project team is working with City of Hillsboro Parks & Recreation Department staff and the Tualatin Valley Rose Society to ensure that valuable, memorial, and irreplaceable roses are properly relocated to the Sunrise Community Garden during construction. The Rose Society will continue to maintain and care for the roses at this temporary location until construction is complete. The City will then replant the roses in their new locations at the Rose Garden, which will be coordinated with the Rose Society. Memorial items such as the tile mosaic, plaques, and benches will be preserved and protected during construction and will be integrated into the new Rose Garden layout.

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When will construction start?

Construction is on schedule to begin in March, 2020. A construction contract was awarded at the February 4, 2020 City Council meeting to Eugene based Pacific Excavation, Inc. They recently worked in the Hillsboro community on the NW Century Boulevard Extension (Century to Jacobson), NE 28th Avenue Improvement, Veterans Drive, and the NE Lenox Street and NE Lorie Drive Culvert Replacement projects.

What is the construction schedule?

A tentative construction schedule will be posted to the Jackson School Road website when it is available.

Work hours during construction will be Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Will the speed limit change during construction?

A temporary speed limit reduction to 25 Miles Per Hour (MPH) will be in effect from February 20, 2020 through winter, 2022. Temporary traffic message boards will be placed two weeks before, and two weeks after the temporary speed limit change begins. The speed limit will return to 35 MPH at the end of construction.

Will emergency responders and other services, such as garbage haulers and deliveries, still have access to my home during construction?

Emergency access to all properties will be maintained at all times. The contractor will coordinate with service providers such as garbage haulers and delivery/shipping companies to ensure that service continues un-interrupted.

Will mailboxes be temporarily relocated?

The project will remove existing mailboxes and replace them with locking, cluster mailboxes. Once the existing mailboxes are removed, the new cluster mailboxes will be placed in a temporary location until improvements in the permanent location are complete. At that time, the cluster mailboxes will be relocated to the permanent location. Mail service will continue un-interrupted during construction. If you have questions regarding your mailbox temporary or permanent location, please contact the project team via phone or email at 503-681-5399 or jacksonschoolproject@hillsboro-oregon.gov.

I would like to have the overhead power service line to my house placed underground, who can I contact to provide that service?

If you currently have an overhead power service line connected to your house and would like that line placed underground please contact PGE Service Coordination at 503-323-6700 or service.coordinators@pgn.com.

How can I receive project updates?

The City provides project updates quarterly by email. [Sign up to receive emails directly.](#)

The City welcomes questions and feedback from community members:

- Call: 503-681-5399
- [Email](#)
- Visit or send mail to:
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